

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Pending claims 1, 3, 6-7, 9, 12-13, 15-17, 19-20, 22-24, and 26-29 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 4,740,893 (Buchholz). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

With regard to amended claim 1, Buchholz nowhere discloses that an indicator bit of a register is set if the register is updated. Instead, Buchholz teaches updating bits of a separate register. Accordingly, the rejection of claim 1 and claims 3 and 6 are overcome. For at least the same reasons, each of independent claims 7, 13 and 19 and the claims depending therefrom are also patentable over Buchholz.

Pending claims 31 and 33 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Buchholz. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. First, Applicant respectfully traverses the Office Action's taking of official notice that it is "conventional and well-known in the art" to store "indicator bits for data in a register in that register". Office Action, p. 10. This is so, at least because the cited prior art nowhere teaches or suggests such co-location of indicator bits within the register for which it provides an indication. Accordingly, the rejection is improper. MPEP 2144.04.

Furthermore, the Office Action contends that modifying the location of vector change bits in Buchholz would not affect operation of the system. Office Action, p. 10. Applicant respectfully disagrees, as the Office Action provides no evidence that such modification would not affect the system. Clearly, system operation would be affected at least because the system of Buchholz is programmed to operate using the separate register location. The proposed modification would also affect the system of Buchholz, as each indicator bit of Buchholz corresponds to a register pair. Accordingly, it would affect the operation as there is no teaching or suggestion (other than Applicant's own disclosure) to place an indicator bit in one or both of the registers of the register pair to provide an indication for both of the pair.

Further with respect to claim 31, Applicant respectfully disagrees with the assertion that Buchholz discloses that the register is a control register "since the indicator bit in the register controls the storage to memory, it may be appropriately named a control register." Office Action, p. 10. In this regard, nowhere does Buchholz teach or suggest that the register for which a determination of update status is made is a control register. Instead, Buchholz merely discloses that the registers that are analyzed for update status are vector registers used for vector


processing. Buchholz, col. 5, lns. 45-67. Accordingly, claims 31 and 33 are patentable over the §103 rejection for these further reasons.

For at least the same reasons discussed above, new dependent claims 34-43 are also patentable.

In view of these remarks, the application is now in condition for allowance and the Examiner's prompt action in accordance therewith is respectfully requested. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-1504.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 25, 2005



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